

**Folder 37:**  
**Young,**  
**S. Hall**  
**Correspondence**  
**with James L.**  
**McBride,**  
**Anchorage**  
**1917**



May 1st, 1917.

Rev. James L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska.

My dear Mr. McBride,

It is a very, very long time since I sent you my book, "The Klondike Clan," and a letter, and I think I have received no word from you since. Yours letters used to come so frequently, and were so very interesting and helpful, that I miss them very sorely.

I had a very strenuous round of lecturing for five months from the first of November. Was tired when I began from the stress of finishing my book on time, and got tireder as I advanced, until there came a collapse about three weeks ago which put me in bed for a couple of weeks, and compelled the canceling of three itineraries. I am better now, but have cut out the lecturing for awhile until the General Assembly. I am to attend that and lecture every day in the Home Mission tent.

Home mission affairs here just now are in a transition state, and the officers of the Board do not know "where they are at." It is clear that there is going to be a reorganization of the Board, and that it will revert to the one head secretary, with assistant secretaries. I am endeavoring to have Alaska elevated into a Department, and if that is the case, I shall probably be Assistant Secretary, with all the Alaska correspondence on my hands. The Board is to meet May 10th and decide the matter of the principal secretaryship. Dr. Dixon has resigned, but I think has a little expectation of continuing his work here. Of course the war has had very great effect upon the work, and it is increasingly hard to raise special funds. I shall probably have the task of raising another



\$10,000. to meet the expenses of the new work for the coming year, and in addition, have the task of getting all our Alaska missions and missionaries adopted by special churches. Am making a desperate effort to have Ohio adopt Alaska as its special field.

Your new church at Anchorage is a "dandy," and will be in the Assembly Herald, as also Hughes' manse at Matanuska. I am very sorry indeed that Hughes has had to wait another year for his bride. Every man in Alaska needs "Friend Wife" as badly as in any part of the world.

I have been long looking for the pictures you and Hughes promised to send of the Matanuska coal fields, the farms around Cook's Inlet, the town of Anchorage, railroad excavations, &c. I have a few pretty good ones, but need a great many more. I am having four sets of slides made for use at the General Assembly, and want to devote an entire lecture to Cordova, the copper mines, the coal mines, Seward, Anchorage, Susitna Valley, Kadiak, etc., including the big game of that country.

I am improving my lectures all the time and getting new slides. I shall not undertake the constant lecturing again, but will be ready to go to the big churches where I can get "big money."

Now please write me one of your good, long old-time letters, and tell me what you think of "The Klondike Clan." My story is going well, and I am hearing of its success everywhere. Am commencing on a new novel which will be named "The Anvil of the North," and will have to do with the Nome stampede of 1899 and 1900.

Give my love to the dear wife, and the babies, Hughes, Waller, and any others of my friends. I am anticipating a good visit with George Bruce at the Assembly, and hope he will come to New York before he goes back to Alaska, and will have a good visit with us.

Let me know of anything I can do for you at this end.

Ever cordially your friend,



June 7, 1917.

Rev. James L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska.

My dear Mr. McBride,

I wrote you a letter not long ago, but am now writing you, at the request of Doctor Dixon, to set before you the present conditions. Doctor Dixon will also write you, and this letter is largely explanatory of his.

In the first place, the fund of \$10,580.58, which I raised more than a year ago for new work in Alaska, is almost exhausted. By July first, when your salary and that of Mr. Hughes is paid for June, the estimate shows that only \$271.21 will be left of that fund. So far as your own salary and that of Mr. Hughes' is concerned, this will be taken up in the general fund for the coming years, and you will be on the regular budget; but the buildings, dog-teams, boats, organs, etc. needed in your work will have to be obtained by special appeal among the churches again.

I have undertaken to finance the new mission at Nenana, and the mission at Ruby, and raise another fund for these exigencies. At present we are somewhat in a condition of doubt on account of the Board being in a transition state, and in the process of reorganization. Br. Marquis, the ex-moderator, has been elected as General Secretary to come into office the first of October, and it is likely that Dr. Dixon will cease his services for the Board at that time.

If I continue in the service of the Board, it is likely that I shall have all the Alaska correspondence to manage, and shall have to make up the budget, o.k. bills, etc., for our missions throughout the territory, of course under the supervision of Dr. Marquis, who has expressed his wish to that effect, in case he accepts the secretaryship. The present arrangement will continue until October 1st. Dr. Dixon is making every effort to reduce the budget for the coming year to meet the



deficit and give Dr. Marquis a clear slate, with as many as possible of the financial problems solved when he comes into his new office.

If I have this added responsibility and work, I shall be required to spend most of my time right in this office, and cannot do nearly as much lecturing among the churches as heretofore. I shall make a very special effort during the coming year, to have all the missionaries in Alaska adopted by special churches, and their salaries guaranteed, and also provide for equipment, expenses, etc. But you will readily see that just now my hands are tied, and it is impossible to make definite plans.

Dr. Dixon thinks it inadvisable to ~~expand~~ more money for your social hall just now, or to continue Mr. Hughes monthly traveling expenses. He thinks that, as has been the case heretofore, the missionaries should raise on the field the incidental expenses for their regular services including the traveling expenses, and that only such traveling expenses should be paid as are incurred on special and long trips. This has been the practice heretofore in all of our Alaska work. I shall write to Mr. Hughes telling him about these conditions and what he may expect and may not expect for the coming year.

Of course after the Board meets, which will be June 14th, I shall know more definitely what I am permitted to do in the way of "Specials."

We had a great meeting of the General Assembly at Dallas. Bruce and his wife had a room along side of mine, and we were in constant consultation. I was lecturing every day in the Home Mission tent, and gave also a lecture at the Home Mission rally in the Temple. I was prevented from making an appeal for men for the Alaska work on the floor of the Assembly, by the uncertainty of the conditions of the Board, but I have just inserted in our papers a call for three men - one for Nenana, one for Ruby, and one for our Indian mission at Kake.

Now in regard to the commissionership for next spring. Of course I am in line, and you would come next; but I do not know just now whether it will be possible or desirable for me to be the Commissioner next spring. I may have the Presidency



of our new Agricultural College and School of Mines established at Fairbanks, and if so, would likely be in the interior at that time immersed in my duties, and if here, connected with the Board, it might be best for me to defer my attendance on the Assembly to another year. The condition is this. There is a strong feeling on the part of the churches, that <sup>it</sup> is the turn of some Pastor to be Moderator of the next Assembly, and that it ought to fall to the lot of the minister of the former Cumberland Church - Dr. Smith, the Pastor of the Temple at Dallas, in whose church the Assembly met, who is one of the strongest and most popular men in the South, and a boom was started at this Assembly to make him Moderator next year. He will undoubtedly be elected as Commissioner, and will be a candidate for Moderatorship. I would not wish to stand in his way, as I think he deserves the position, and the southern wing of our church has urged that he shall have it. Snowden and others at the Assembly, asked if I could defer for another year my coming as Commissioner as they are desirous of putting me up for the Chair. Now I did not say a word of this to any one except Bruce at the General Assembly, nor have I done the least electioneering, and shall not do so. I do not desire to make any move personally to become Moderator, but if I am ever to have that honor, it must be within the next very few years. I am in my seventieth year. Now if you wish to go to the Assembly next spring, I am perfectly willing that you should go, provided I do not have to take my place at the tail of the procession and wait five or six years before becoming Commissioner. You know I have protested against that hard and fast rule, and if I should still be in line, if I step out and let you be the next Commissioner, I should be assured of the Commissionership in 1919.

Please let me hear from you as soon as possible on these points, and as to what you will need from the Board for the coming year.

You owe me two or three letters, and it seems a long while since I have heard from you. With love to Mrs. McBride, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Waller, and hugs for the babies, I am

As ever, your friend,



## ANCHORAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANCHORAGE, June 28th 1917

The Rev. S. Hall Young D.D.

New York.

My dear Doctor:

Your two good letters reached me by successive boats and I hasten to reply. There must be some crossing of our mails for long ago last winter I sent you a very thankful acknowledgement of the gift of your book and at the same time several pictures, among them the interiors of our new home and scenes in Anchorage. But let me thank you for the book again. I may say that the book is quite worn out for at the time I received the book I spoke of it publicly from the pulpit and offered to loan it out. It has been on the go ever since and incidentally a number of copies have been ordered by people for their relatives outside. Of course I personally preferred the first book. In that book you gave yourself free rein in this book it seemed to me that you were always trying to hold something back. I wish you had put more of yourself into the spiritual character of your story. Of course I know it would have been difficult because delicate but these of us who know you would have enjoyed it so much the more. The book is by an Alaska enthusiast who doesn't let his enthusiasm give false colors to life up here. It is the best book of its kind that any of us up here have ever read-so say we all.

The work here is speeding along and needless to say I am always busy. If you would like to know just how we are doing things in this youngest child of yours, let me say that two weeks ago, the members of this congregation called on every one in town with an invitation to church and Sunday School. It was also a religious census of the community. This week 70 letters are being written, personal letters by members of this church to those whom we have met. Even our prayer meetings are good. The Sunday School is about as lively a proposition as I have seen and the church services are all that could be desired. When you sent some one here, you made no mistake. Even the money invested here has tripled itself, and I may also say that the old church building is paying a good rate of interest on the whole investment, to say nothing of the spiritual good the church is doing.

I have the grounds in nice shape now and in another week it will all be under fence as well. One doesn't often find a nicer property or in better shape than this one. We have a very good body of trustees.



## ANCHORAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANCHORAGE, \_\_\_\_\_ 191\_\_\_\_\_

When I see you I'll tell you how these things were brought about.

Now in regard to changing places with you, as commissioner, for next year. Let me say first of all that I will be very glad to do so, not only because of you but for my own sake as well. I have# worked hard and I feel that a change for a few months would set me up. But I want to have a clear understanding. I am writing away to the men in Presbytery so that there will be no ##### trouble there at the last minute. And I may say in passing that Presbytery here has never concerned itself with the men's trading places-it has only insisted on rotation.

This is the situation. According to notice from the Board, my vacation does not come until 1919# or at the end of my first five year period. I can see very well that I could not expect to ~~be~~ go out in 1919 if I ~~0000~~ go out next Spring. But certainly I have no desire to allow a flying trip to Assembly take the place of a vacation. In 1919 I would combine a trip to Assembly with my vacation. My understanding is that the same thing happens one year sooner and that this will be the only difference it will make. May I therefore lay matters before you as a whole?

We are expecting a youngster in ##### October. I wish Mrs. McBride to go out Sept 1st then for that reason, and for these additional reasons. The vacation notice reads for missionary and family and certainly the poor wives need it more than we do. But as to her going out this Fall-her being here will keep me at home more than I wish if I am coming out in the Spring. I want to get into the Broad Pass country and perhaps as far as Nenana. If I come out I want to come out so as to return here directly after Assembly-which means my vacation begins earlier than navigation will open. I can make it to Seward but Mrs. McBride and the children cannot do so. And further I think it would be ~~far~~ better for the family to have their vacation in early months rather than in the later warmer months.

May I also call this matter to your attention. There is no one in our whole church who would do more for your moderators than myself. And I wish to do something. Why don't you make use of me in March and April, perhaps also in part of February? Didn't it ever strike you that if you brought me out there and gave me an itinerary of talks I could help the cause along in no small degree? It's the new Alaska that I know, made up of the old elements and the present influx of chechakos. Is there anybody in better position to tell in a perfectly appropriate manner in a missionary address what our pioneer missionary has meant and still means to Alaska? Here I am touching elbows with men from your former parishes-they have given me a wealth of



## ANCHORAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANCHORAGE, June 23<sup>rd</sup> 191

material that I can use and I think use effectively both for the good of the kingdom and just as effectively tho incidentally with bearing upon what effect it will have in the coming spring. To a certain extent I have the gift of speech, and I wish you would give me this chance. I don't want to take a vacation and stay around home-I want to do something while I am outside. Hughes can look after this work at that time of the year and I can get away just as well as not. I'll have my church debt all fixed up and will be quite at liberty to get away in February. I do ### hope that you will fix it so that I can do this.

Now once more in regard to Mrs. McBride's coming out. We have put all our savings into this house and living is such today that every cent goes to the merchants. If it is possible will you##### advance her expenses or that part of it which the Board will stand so that she may leave by Sept. 1st? I may say that we have tho't very earnestly over the matter and under the circumstances we do not feel that this arrangement will be other than satisfactory to you and to the Board. Assembly ### will pay my expenses, and while we have only been here four instead of five years, matter have so shaped themselves that it is this year instead of next.

We are very grateful to you for this chance. My mother is in very poor health and every letter has bemoaned the fact that it is two more years until I return to see her. The contact with some of you men outside will do much for me. And as for the wife-well she needs it and deserves her vacation more than I.

I note what you say of your new labors. Surely you let no grass grow under your feet. I wish you every success in the new undertaking. If the money goes as far and does as much good as the Anchorage allotment has done, there will be a good many stars in your crown of gladness.

I must write and tell mother I am going home sooner than I tho't. So with best wishes I am

Sincerely Yours,

James L. McBride



June 30, 1917.

Rev. James L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska.

Dear Mr. McBride,

I wrote you on June 7th mentioning among other matters the Commissionership of the General Assembly.

I have not heard since anything concerning the College, and have decided to go right along on the assumption that I would be in this office at least another year. Therefore, I have concluded to take my regular place as Commissioner, unless something should occur to take me to Alaska. Whether or not I should be put up for Moderator, is to me a minor consideration, although of course I should like the honor. If I am elected as Commissioner, you should be the alternate, and in case I should find it impossible to attend, you can go to the Assembly, just as Bruce did this year.

Dr. Marquis has not yet signified whether he would accept the position of General Secretary, and a late letter to me indicates that his acceptance is doubtful. In that case matters of the Home Board will be "up in the air", at least until the next meeting of the Board in September. The suspense is very trying to all of us, and detrimental to our efforts to get money and men for our separate fields.

Dr. Dixon thinks that the Presbytery of Yukon ought to nominate me for Moderatorship of the Assembly when it elects me as Commissioner. I know you would be glad to do this, and whether I use this nomination or stand as a candidate, will be a matter for my friends and the future to decide.

With warm regards to Mrs. McBride, Hughes, Waller, etc. I am, as always,

Your friend,



JUL 13 1917  
Dear Dr. Young:- I wonder if you have  
any idea what the prospects of  
"a trip outside," a whole year sooner  
than we ever dreamed of, can  
possibly mean to us. I got so much  
to me as to him. I don't think I have  
ever seen him so excited or pleased  
over anything since I have known  
him. He is fairly bubbling over with  
plans for his trip and his chance  
to help "the cause" as well as "your  
cause" along, and I sincerely believe  
with his knowledge of what your  
past (as well as your present) has  
meant to Alaska, he can speak  
very effectively in your behalf,  
and may I also add - do it in a  
way that will not be electioneering  
for myself. I can say  
the greatest drawback to life in Alaska



is "the Homefolks". They are constantly tugging  
at ones heartstrings - so, that the photo of  
seeing them so soon, puts new life into  
me and certainly means much to me  
under present circumstances.

I couldn't resist this little chance to  
tell you how happy you have made us and  
how desirous we are of doing anything  
in our power to add to your happiness.  
With love from us all - Sincerely,  
Ethel McBride.

Thursday. June 28, 1917.



July 13, 1917.

Rev. James L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska.

My dear McBride;

Yours and Mrs. McBride's letters of June 28th are at hand, and I hasten to reply.

Dr. Dixon is taking his vacation in week-end chunks this summer, and so is absent until next Monday (this is Friday). When he returns I will write you again concerning Anchorage affairs. This is more especially a personal letter to you two as my beloved children.

Governor Strong has been here, and is still on tenter-hooks about his reappointment. His enemies, the Catholic anti-prohibition, Democratic Juneau machine, are moving earth and the "infernal regions" and trying also to move the President of the United States and the Secretary of the Interior, to oust Strong and get Riggs in. We have been doing all we can for Strong here, and I still confidently hope that he will be reappointed.

I got from him the facts about the College. \$60,000, as you know, has been appropriated for its buildings by the Alaska legislature. \$50,000 annually is available from the Government of the United States for its maintenance. One section of every township of the Tanana Valley has been set aside also for the College and a fine tract of land appropriated for it at Fairbanks. But Strong said that it was the general sentiment of the legislature, that nothing would be done toward the organization of the College until next spring. Therefore it ~~is~~ is quite certain that I will be here at that time.

Dr. Dixon has expressed his opinion that if I would go to the Assembly



next spring, I would be elected Moderator, also that no General Assembly is largely influenced by the preceding Assembly in its choice of Moderator, as the personnel of the Assembly differs entirely from year to year.

However, your letters, and especially that of Mrs. McBride disposed of that matter definitely. I shall stand aside with the utmost cheerfulness and let you go to the Assembly of 1919 at Columbus, and I do not wish you to think that it is an act of self-sacrifice on my part. Conditions being as they are in your family I would for no consideration stand in the way of your next spring's vacation, and I think I can assure you that the Board will grant you your vacation at that time with as much cheerfulness as I surrender my place as Commissioner to you. Send Mrs. McBride out by all means, and don't have her wait too long. I shall bring the matter up with Dr. Dixon on Monday, and I am certain the Board will advance her expenses at once. If necessary, I shall stand back of them to guarantee them from the Special Fund.

As to your taking the matter of my Moderatorship up - of course you are at liberty to do what you can, but I do not propose to do any electioneering myself, and do not wish my friends to do anything that will look like wire-pulling. If the honor comes to me I shall be grateful, but it must come freely from the church. I shall look to you to arrange the changing of places of Commissioner. Dr. Condit in a former letter, when speaking of the rotation system, said that if he were to step out and let me go instead of him, he would have to take his place at the foot of the list four or five years later. If he is still of that opinion of course I would not stand for being at the foot of the list, to come after Shriver, Condit, Hughes, Marple and Spence. It must be simply changing places with you with the understanding that I would be the Commissioner in 1920.

I shall write you again on Monday after conference with Dr. Dixon and tell you more fully our plans for the summer. Dr. Marquis has not yet given his answer to the Board, and we are still "in the air".



July 16, 1917.

Rev. James L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska.

My dear McBride,

I have had my conference with Dr. Dixon, and he is in accord with my plans for you. At my suggestion he is about to send you \$100.00 for Mrs. McBride's expenses out on her vacation. The Board, you know, only agrees to send its missionaries out to Seattle or some other point on the north-western coast. I hope this \$100 will land Mrs. McBride safely in Seattle and give her a margin to start on her journey the rest of the way to Illinois. Dr. Dixon also agrees to put forward your vacation and enable you to come out next spring, and these are our plans.

We are engaging in a tremendous effort to raise \$1,300,000. before the next General Assembly. It is going to take a hard struggle with all the resources at our command to raise this large sum during these war times. I am coming up against obstacles which did not exist before, every time I plead for money for Alaska. We are going to be short of speakers that we will want to use towards the end of this campaign. I have told Dr. Dixon and Dr. Patterson, our Financial Secretary, that I think no man would be better in that line for a special campaign than yourself. Therefore if you can come out, the first of February and spend the time from then until after the General Assembly in speaking before churches and conventions for home missions and Alaska, you can be doing a great service to the church and to the territory we both love. This doesn't look like much of a vacation, but I think you will enjoy getting among the churches and meeting with our sympathetic and interested eastern friends. I shall largely have the management of your itinerary as you will be speaking at



a representative from Alaska. Advanced money will be sent you, if you need it, when you are about to start, and of course your expenses while speaking among the churches will all be met by the Board. What do you think of this?

We are sending \$1000 to Mr. Diven who expects to start for Nenana on the Tanana July 27th. Dr. Condit is going in to the interior with him, and has outlined his plan by telegram to this effect, - that he will go in with Diven and his family; place him at Nenana; go on to Fairbanks, then down to Ruby (I think perhaps also he will get to Iditarod); go on to Nome, then around to Seward and Anchorage and be there for Presbytery some time in the fall. We are sending Dr. Condit \$500. for this trip.

Now during the hot weather I shall make little attempt to raise these special funds, but expect to start in September on another strenuous campaign in the hopes of raising all our home missionary needs in Alaska and especially to get all the Alaska missionaries adopted by special churches or groups of churches.

We are sending the \$100 now, so that Mrs. McBride may not be delayed too long in starting. My experience as a husband and father leads me to urge you to allow enough time margin and not let her be too late in starting. Often the unexpected happens in such cases. Tell her to write to me as soon as she comes out, giving me her address and I will keep in touch with her and very likely can see her during the winter.

With love to her and hugs for the babies, I am always

Your friend,

Dictated but not signed.



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AUG 31 1917  
Sept 5

JAMES L. MCBRIDE  
MISSIONARY

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA Aug. 14 1917.

The Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.

New York.

Dear Doctor Young:

The money was received as per your letter, from Dr. Dixon, and Mrs. McBride took the last boat for the outside. It has made quite a new woman of her. And may I say this for myself?

It has been rather problematical with us as to whether we would return after our five year vacation. Frankly speaking, Mrs. McBride did not care much about coming back. But before she left, we went all over the matter and there did not appear any reason why we should take our hand away from the plow. As for myself, I would be blinder than an eyeless man if I failed to see that the hold which the church can get over Alaska can be obtained only thru a long ministry. The friends that you made during your long stay up here in addition to all the other things that they found in you to care for, always speak about your endurance quality. It must have been as hard or harder for you in the brave days of old than it is for us.

I am glad that I am to be allowed to do my bit outside for the Cause. Already I have begun on my addresses. But there is one item that I can't fill in till I see you. I can find out a great deal about what you have done up here but I wonder if it would not be possible for me to see you before I begin the itinerary? There are many things that only you can impart to me. And if it would not be too expensive, I would like to come on and hold a little conference with you first. Would you advise me to write to Dr. Kerr about the subject which interests us? He has written me twice in regard to you. If there is anything I can do along that line and you will let me know what it is, I am only too willing to do it.

You speak about your not wishing any wire pulling etc. I never knew of any position that came without the exertion of some effort. If one friend wishes to work for another and is in a position so to do, it seems to me that some more euphonious term may be applied to it. You have friend upon friend outside who will only be too glad to bring deserved recognition to you. They know you only by hearsay. I have been on the ground, some of which, and much of which has been tramped over by you. I rode across the bridges which you built. I have seen as I can look out of my window right now and see a wilderness whose spiritual needs you foresaw and did your best to provide for when hardly another man thought this century would see any such development. But right on the edges of that wilderness already is there talk of paper mills and foundries and furnaces and going thru that wilderness are already two railroads



# THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JAMES L. MCBRIDE  
MISSIONARY

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA \_\_\_\_\_ 191 \_\_\_\_\_

with coal camps and farms and mines of copper and gold on either side. I wish that you might make another trip to Alaska and compare our Presbyterian missions with others. Come here to Anchorage and see the difference between our services our Sunday School and young people's society and our property. I have worked here in Anchorage pretty hard but I am ready to take my hat off to you and say that the realization of plans have come, because the plans and the wherewithal were provided by you. Does that sound too strong? So don't you talk about wirepulling to me again.

As soon as you can, I wish that you would let me know the probable audiences that I will face—that is as to their makeup etc. What sort of lectures would you advise? Will there be meetings with Presbyteries, business organizations? women, young people, Sunday Schools, individuals, etc? Will I be with you part of the time? I intend to leave here as soon after the last Sunday in Feb. as possible. I will have to mush toeward or most of the way because it does not seem that the line will be of value any farther than it was last year. Especially will this be true if there is any snow. But I ought to get out ofeward about Feb. 5th.

I am going up to Indian River next week. It will be a hard mush in the Summer time but since Hughes went out I feel that I ought to make it at least once before snow flies and snow has already come to the mountains.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely Yours,

*James L. McBride*



September 5, 1917.

Rev. James L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska.

My dear McBride,

Yours of August 14th has been by me a week or two.

I took my August vacation at home with Lassie and the children at our summer cottage at Fair Haven, New Jersey. We have a canoe and have been out on the water every day, and in bathing the hottest days two or three times a day. I feel very much refreshed by my vacation, and ready for a strenuous winter's work again. I am sorry to say that I have done but little on my new book, "The Anvil of the North." I was in such a nervous condition, that a page or two of writing with a pencil almost did me up. Now, however, I am getting back to my former condition.

I am glad that Mrs. McBride was safely started on her journey home. Your did not give me her eastern address. I wish you would do so in order that I may write to her directly. I wish it would be possible for her to come east and pay Lassie and me a good visit this winter. We have taken a house for the winter at Fair Haven not far from our summer cottage. It is about an hour and twenty minutes from the office, but we have a good church home, school for the children, etc.

Dr. Marquis, who has accepted the position of General Secretary for the Board, has spent a couple of days with me, and we greatly enjoyed his visit. He is to take full charge of his new office the first of October, but he is coming east the twentieth of September, and in connection with Dr. Dixon, Mr. McAfee and all the other officers of the Board, we are to thresh out the reorganization of the Board for the next year. Dr.



Marquis desires that Mr. Dixon and Mr. McAfee remain in connection with the Board at least for some months until he gets the hang of things. He fully endorses my plan for the reorganization of the Alaska office, and expects to recommend that I have the full charge of the Alaska correspondence, making up the budget, etc., of course with final reference of important matters to him and his counsellors. This will be much more satisfactory than my past work has been, and I think will make me much more efficient in my plans for the help of Alaska. Just as soon as we reach a conclusion at that conference we will let you know the results.

Now in regard to yourself. I am very grateful for your confidence and am especially glad that you and Mrs. McBride have decided to stay by Alaska for a term of years. Tell your wife that my wife and myself passed through the same period of discouragement and wishing to get away from Alaska that you have felt, but concluded that we had a responsibility to the territory that no one else could lift, and that what we had learned of conditions and needs of the work demanded our trying out the problems to the full. When I first went to Alaska, I told the Board that I would try to stay by the Indian work for ten years. I did so, although there were seasons of deep discouragement and heavy trial. Then I left that work for the sake of my family. I am more than thankful that I stayed by the Indian work for ten years. When I went back to Alaska in 1897 to engage in the pioneer work among the miners, I did so with the expectation of making Alaska my life work, and I have never been discouraged since. To me Alaska has grown to be the most desirable place to live and work in of all the fields, but it took years of hard work and will-power to arrive at that state of mind.

I am sure that if you and Mrs. McBride, with the splendid opportunities that are before you, stay by the work for another term of five years, you will then have come to think of the work and of the country very much as I do.



Now as to your coming out and helping us in the great campaign for home mission funds that is before us this year - Dr. Patterson, our Financial Secretary and Dr. Dixon are both absent just now on their vacation, and therefore I cannot consult them. But I am quite sure that the matter of your itinerary will be left principally to my judgment, and my idea is this:-

We are trying to raise the money that the Board allowed us to raise, namely \$1,500,000. for the coming year. As you will see by the enclosed leaflet issued by the Board, it is a tremendous task. I have little hope that we shall attain to the full amount - the state of things is almost desperate. Church people especially and everybody else are giving all they feel they can spare to the Red Cross and to the Relief Work that concerns the War. Foreign Missions and Home Missions have suffered terribly. Dr. Halsey of the Foreign Board told me the other day that the past two months have been the leanest financially for that Board in many years, and the Home Board record is the same or worse. We are organizing a campaign from church to church, and personally to the rich presbyterians, in a desperate effort to increase the donations for the ensuing year.

I am enclosing a schedule made out by our Financial Secretary which will give you some inkling of the plan. We are dividing the whole territory of the United States into sections, and sending speakers to these sections to work them up. I am to go to Northern Ohio and to western Pennsylvania, and afterwards to other sections not yet determined. You will probably be under my direction, sent to the churches, presbyteries, conventions, etc. that offer the most for Alaska.

Now my idea is this - that you get away from Anchorage as early as possible. I see a mistake in your letter. In one sentence you say "I intend to leave here as soon after the last Sunday in February as possible." In another sentence you say - "But I ought to get Seward about February 5th." Evidently your first sentence should read "the last Sunday in January." Am I right?



Now if we think you could be of great use to us sooner, would it be possible for you to get Hughes to look after your church and leave as early as the first of January, thus giving you six or seven weeks of service before the end of the fiscal year on March 31st. It might be that we would not think it wise for you to come so early, but I believe I shall. Then a full itinerary will be arranged for you, taking most of the time up to the meeting of the General Assembly. Of course we will give you all the time you demand for visiting and enjoying your friends, and some time for resting, and I would be in favor of lengthening your vacation until a couple of months after the General Assembly, when you could have a rest. Of course this is only tentative, and I want to get your idea about it. But undoubtedly we shall ask you to come on to New York as soon as possible after you reach the states. If you can bring the wife and all the babies for a visit with Lassie and me, that will be still better.

I have written to Hughes inviting him after his operation to come and make us a visit at Fair Haven. He came to see us after his former operation and we enjoyed his visit very much. It was too short. I want Dr. Marquis to see him and get acquainted with him and his work.

Now as to my going to Alaska - Dr. Marquis is anxious to make a trip to Alaska next summer, and wants me to go along, but I do not think it will be possible for me to leave the office at that time and my work. Perhaps in another year, if I remain in this office, I can visit Alaska.

As to the other matter of which you wrote. I was at Dr. Kerr's church last Sunday and supplied his pulpit. He is engaged in Y.M.C.A. work for the soldiers just now. I am to go back to his church later and raise what money I can for Alaska. I got promises last Sunday of several checks, but most of the moneyed men were absent with their families. I saw Dr. Kerr in this office two or three weeks ago. He is still very earnest in his wish that I should give the church a chance to vote for me as Moderator. I told



him that you were to be Commissioner for this coming season, and that I would like to have you here before his church and talk to his people. He seems to be very much pleased with the prospect. It would do no harm for you to keep in touch with him as he is a royal good fellow.

I shall let you know later as we work out the details of your itinerary, but please answer my questions above as to whether it will be possible for you to make a longer stay east and to come earlier.

Give my love to Waller and tell him I have been long expecting an answer to my last letter. What is Howard doing, and has he taken orders in the Episcopal Church? Please write soon and fully, and send me the latest pictures. I would be very glad, indeed if you would send me an account of the organization of your church and a list of the members, with the churches from which they come, etc. I always made it a point when organizing churches in Alaska to send these details to the Home Mission Board, and they have found them of great use. Anything in the way of information or pictures, or anecdotes which will work into addresses or articles, will be of great use.

Very warmly yours,



007 10 1917

# THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JAMES L. MCBRIDE  
MISSIONARY

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA Sept. 20 1917

The Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.

New York.

Dear Dr. Young:

Your letter of recent date has been received and as I have had some time to look matters squarely in the face, I am writing you as to what I can do. I may also add by way of introduction that the same mail brought a letter from Mr. Hughes with the intelligence that he was not to return to Alaska and asking me to pack his belongings and to forward them to Virginia.

Of course knowing Winter conditions as you do in the North, you will at once understand that this has complicated matters but taken into consideration with another matter, it looks as if Providence were shaping events from the very beginning. For the increased cost of construction has necessitated the closing down of all the railroad work to the North of here, and between here and Seward there will only be a limited amount of rock work done until the Spring has opened up navigation. That means that for this Winter Mr. Hughes would have had only a limited amount of work to do and unless the field had widened more would hardly have justified us in maintaining a mission during the cold months. Mr. Mears told me some weeks ago that this might be the probable situation and now it has been absolutely confirmed. Practically all that we will have to think about will be the homesteaders, the mine and a rock camp or so. The branch line has been turned over entirely to the maintenance department. Since Mr. Hughes has left I have gotten together lots of magazines and books and am now distributing them. Also since the fish did not come up the Inlet and the natives from Shushitna to Talkeetna are in hard shape for the Winter, I have collected a large assortment of clothing which the A.E.C. has consented to deadhead to the different points. I am also placing quite a circulating library in two points. If Mr. Hughes had returned he could have turned practically all his attention to Anchorage until work opened up again. But he is not coming back—he has definitely decided so.

My idea is this then. Mr. Shriver has been rather ~~#####~~ determined that he was not seeing enough of real frontier conditions. He would jump at the chance of doing Hughes work and would I think cover as much ground as Hughes did with perhaps equal success and perhaps more. Then too he is a married man and between you and me I thoroughly agree that a married man is best for this or any part of Alaska that I have seen. ~~##~~ It would be impossible to bring a married man in over the trail—it cost me \$164 to get Mrs. McBride in two years back and the railroad is to be of no use at all this Winter except for about ten miles from here towards Seward as recent downpours have wiped



# THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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JAMES L. MCBRIDE  
MISSIONARY

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

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out the trestles and fills on the Seward end. The only feasible thing# seems to be then, that with the agreement of Mr. Shriver to take over Hughes' work when I return in the Spring that he be brought over here on the last boat and given charge of the Anchorage work for the Winter.

There remains the Cordova field. I have as my right hand man in the church here a Rev. Mr. Brown of the M.E. Church who has been taking avaction for the last year. He is a man of strong common sense, trained both in theology and the law which he once followed and a man of whose winsomeness and ability I think so highly that if obliged to be out of town I have always turned my pulpit over to him. He has an adult Bible class in the School that averages about 20 in attendance. In additionn he is married with two daughters in the High School here that are of immense service to me in many ways. I have had a talk with him on the quiet and he would enter our service as a Presbyterian minister. We could transfer him to Cordova as Shriver was leaving and I am sure that Under the cir-umstances we would be on the whole gainers by the move. Besides we would be saving the Matanuska salary for the Winter a matter of some \$850. To offset this would be the fares of the transfer only which would not be as much as the cost of transportation of a supply from the States. And before a man is sent into Cordova or any other part around here I want the privilege of going into the situation face-#### to-face with you as the directing head of these operations.

This move would leave<sup>me</sup> free to catch the last boat out and after two weeks with the family-my mother has been very low this Summer-I'll go anywhere and do anything you wish me to do. I am just as much obliged to you for your offer of two months after Assembly but Next Summer will be acritical time up here and I want to be on the ground. The Christians lost their church in Seward by the flood and their man has gone out for the Winter already, so that this may complicate affairs to themward. Besides my own church I will feel better satisfied with if I am back here on the ground. Winter is setting in and I have everything already on a fine basis so that Shriver will find it easy to pick up the reins. But I want about a week with him to show him the ropes. We have a double quartette for evening service six of whom can do solo work quite acceptably. I have children's choir of twelve voices for the morning service. We had a prayer-meeting attendance of 31 #### this week, and the Endeavor Society will average 30 in attendance. The Sunday School is one of the best I have ever seen and is both ably officered and #### equipped with teachers. I am just finishing the every member campaign and we will be completely out of debt in a very few months and prepared to take quite a burden from the shoulders of the Board so far as this field is concerned. So you see I am free to go.

In case this meets with your approval, as I am sure it will for I know that you are counting on getting as early a start as possible upon your part of the campaign, I wish you would cable



# THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JAMES L. MCBRIDE  
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ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

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me so that I can complete preparations. A letter will not reach me much before the end of October in response to this. Then if everything is alright, ~~for~~, I wish that you would send me some expense money at the same time, for Mrs. McBride's going left me crippled financially—we had contributed just \$265.59 to the building fund last year besides \$75 to the running expenses of the church;—I shall be much obliged. And if you can see to it that my September check reaches me a week earlier, or rather my October check, it will help out immensely for I want to get some clothes when I reach the States and the check usually gets here about the 5th which may be too late for the boat.

Dr. Condit will reach here or should reach here next week and I am quite sure that this plan will have his hearty indorsement. He wants to go over the work here and that will take some time so that I will be very busy with one thing or another and besides I must go to Cordova to Presbytery meeting.

Now as to the other matters. Mrs. McBride's address is New Albany, Ind., Silver Hills. I would much enjoy accepting your kind invitation to visit in your home but finances strictly forbid. We expect the youngster about Oct. 10th-15th. She seems to be quite happy over everything and I expect a long letter telling me her gladness to return next Spring.

Mr. Howard was inducted into the Episcopal ~~ian~~ ministry by Bishop Rowe three weeks ago.

I had the pleasure of marrying Mr. Waller to a Miss Ewing last week. We speak of you when ever we get together. He and I had duck hunt recently and he told me to tell you that he did not disgrace the shotgun of yours. He certainly does keep the weapon shined up.

Mr. Banks has written Dr. Condit that he will let the matter of adjudicating the interest in our old building to Dr. Condit and myself. I have taken the advice of Mr. Waller and two real estate men on the matter and they all agreed that my proposal was eminently fair.

Now let me give you just a little item of what use we have made of about \$3000 of the money you raised. We have three buildings, the old church, the new church and the manse. The manse is a far better building in every way than the houses which cost the Commission \$5500. It cost us \$2400. As for the old building it has brought us in return for an outlay of \$732, over \$1550 in solid cash which of course has been turned in on the new buildings. I am just at this time having the building stuccoed. The lessee is putting in a hot water heating plant. And within two years we will have as fine ~~as~~ social hall as can be found. This whole property has stood your fund about \$3000. It is today worth easily \$12000. That intelligence ought to be of some help in getting more for the same fund. And that building belongs to to the Board, that is the whole property does, as I have been very careful in regard to the Board's interests.



# THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JAMES L. MCBRIDE  
MISSIONARY

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA \_\_\_\_\_ 191 \_\_\_\_\_

I am making a collection of pictures which I will be able to send by the last of the month. We have held quite a fair here and some of the pictures will give you a fair line on what this country can do and is already doing.

I wish to say in conclusion that your letter has electrified me both with the greatness of your task and also by the way in which you spoke about your own discouragements in Alaska and of the way in which you triumphed over them and of your present happiness in what you have done and are doing. You called the wife and me your children in one of your letters and while it does sound boyish to say it, I humbly write that I am very glad to have such a spiritual Alaskan father as you. And as for Mrs. McBride, of course you know how she feels about it.

You certainly have a huge task ahead of you-I pray that your strength may be equal to the day. And the reorganization of the Board is bound to add to your already heavy load. But I know you will pull thru it as you have always *done*.

I trust that I have worked out this problem to your satisfaction and that I will be able to see you shortly and work directly under you.

Will write to Dr. Kerr by same boat.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely Yours,

*James L. McBride*



POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY



# NIGHT LETTERGRAM

THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY, 100 WALL STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.  
TERMS AND CONDITIONS PRINTED ON THE BACK OF THIS BLANK.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT.

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ANCHORAGE ALASKA VIA SEATTLE, SEPTEMBER 25TH - OCT 3RD 1917

S HALL YOUNG, 156 FIFTH AVE NYC

CONDIT NOT HERE HUGHE TIEGNEED WORKS SHUTTING DOWN TRAIL TRAVEL  
EXPENSIVE ADVISE SPRIVER IN ANCHORAGE FOR WINTER TAKE HUGHES PLACE  
IN SPRING CAN SEND GOOD MAN CORDOVA MUST DO THIS BEFORE FREEZEUP  
CHEAPEST CAN COME OUT IMMEDIATELY AFTER PRESBYTERY AND WORK FOR  
YOU CABLE REPLY IMMEDIATELY SEND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

J L MCBRIDE 245PM







(C O P Y of T E L E G R A M)

156 Fifth Avenue, New York  
October 4, 1917.

Rev. J. L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska (via Seattle, Wash.)

Not needed until January at least.

Shriver better stay Cordova.

JOHN DIXON.

-----  
(C O P Y of L E T T E R sent to Mr. Bride)

I. October 4, 1917.

Rev. James L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska.

My dear Mr. McBride:--

Your telegram to Dr. Young has been considered. The putting into operation of the plan as adopted by the Dallas Assembly which was fixed for October first is in process. The Board has decided not to continue Dr. Patterson as Financial Secretary after the first of December. This seriously disarranges all our plans. As soon as the officers of the Board who are now visiting the various Synods can be gotten together the whole campaign will be taken up anew, and I will make report to you. It does not seem to us at all probable that you can be utilized until after the first of January and I have so telegraphed you.

We have asked Mr. Hughes to come to New York and will be glad to talk over the situation with him when he comes. Dr. Young's judgment is that Cordova is a place of increasing importance and that it would be a mistake to leave Cordova vacant for so long a time which would necessarily follow the transfer of Mr. Shriver to Anchorage. We will do our best to send in a man to take Hughes' place as soon as possible. It may be that he can maintain your work in Anchorage until after your return from the General Assembly. Even if you do not come out until January, it will mean that you will be away from your field at least five months, seeing you are to be in attendance upon the General Assembly.

With all good wishes, I am,

Cordially yours,

(Signed) John Dixon.



October 4, 1917.

Rev. James L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska.

My dear McBride,

Dr. Dixon and I have been consulting for two days in regard to your telegram received yesterday, and the result was the telegram he is sending you today. However, you deserve a fuller explanation.

The Board has met and decided many things about the offices. Dr. Dixon, you know, had resigned, but the Board has commissioned him until spring to retain his present position, therefore, he will have charge as before of that work, and I will be his assistant as hitherto. However, I have had enlarged powers given me. I enclose a copy of the greater part of the memorandum adopted by the Board concerning Alaska. A number of changes were made, among others, the services of Dr. Patterson as Financial Secretary are to be discontinued the first of December, and Dr. Marquis is to take his financial duties as well as those of the chief executive.

I start next week to the Synod of Kentucky, and the week after that to the Synod of West Virginia. The middle of November I am to go to the northern Presbyteries of Ohio, and continue working there until just before the holidays. In January we will inaugurate campaigns to last the rest of the winter, in Chicago, in Pittsburgh, and in other of our principal states, Dr. Marquis wishes me to make a thorough canvass of Chicago, and there is where I want you to begin. We cannot get around to that campaign until January. Therefore we think if you can start from Anchorage about January 1st and make all haste east, you can probably join me in Chicago, the second or third week in January.

We thought that Dr. Condit, Mr. Shriver and you had better consult together



as to whether Shriver will leave Cordova this winter. I think, however, it would be better for him to stay in Cordova as that place is promising better things and I am prepared to find a man and send him at once to Anchorage, hoping to get him there by the time you have to leave.

Mr. Hughes has promised to come and see us, and I have telegraphed him to-day asking him to come to New York tomorrow or Saturday, and stay with me over Sunday. He said that a Mr. Browne now on the field could look after the Matanuska fields for awhile if commissioned by the Board. We want to know more about this man, therefore have sent for Mr. Hughes. We are anxious to do what is best for your fields as well as for our canvass among the churches. We are going to have difficulty in this canvass that we have never met before, owing to the Red Cross and Liberty Bond demands upon all of the people of the country. However, Dr. Marquis is a splendid leader, and our forces are going to be more vigorous and better organized than ever. Therefore we hope for good results before the meeting of the General Assembly.

Please give me fully your views about what should be done with your field in the meantime, and count on me to see that you have the necessary funds to start out on this campaign.

With much love, I am

Cordially yours,



OCT 22 1917

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MRS. E. S. REEDY  
A. J. WENDLER  
J. L. MCBRIDE

C. H. SHEETS,  
SUPERINTENDENT

## ANCHORAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANCHORAGE, Oct. 5th, 1917.

The Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.

New York.

Dear Doctor Young:

In my recent letter and cable, I apprized you as soon as possible of the situation here. Some change has come over the situation.

Dr. Condit is uncertain of the railroad situation another year and also of the financial conditions of our treasuries. He will therefore recommend to the Board that Mr. Brown be asked to fill my place here while I am gone. He seems to have found everything in such shape and I must say that the town and our own church especially are very loyal—that this seems to be the best and cheapest way out of the situation caused by Mr. Hughes' not coming back.

I will therefore be free to come at any time from date. That is if there is anything which I can do to help out. Anyway I wish to spend my holidays with my mother one of whom at least I shall not see on earth again. Kindly let me know as early and as definitely as you can when you wish me to come.

We received 18 members Sunday, ordained an elder, etc. Have a really fine working force now. I do believe that my going away and coming back will have a good effect. The church has its fighting blood red hot.

The boat is coming in and I must hasten to get ready to go to Cordova to Presbytery. If the Cable had been repaired I would cabled you before this as to change in plans. And thank you so much.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely Yours,



NOV 12 1917

# THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JAMES L. MCBRIDE  
MISSIONARY

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA Oct. 24 1917

The Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.

New York.

Dear Doctor Young:

Your letter reached me by last boat and I am replying at once. I note what you say in regard to your new relationship with the Board and I heartily congratulate you and incidentally ourselves. It must please a man after he has worked so effectively to have such words of commendation written to him as the resolutions of the Board expressed. May God bless you in these added responsibilities.

We had a very pleasant meeting ~~of~~ Presbytery. Mr. Shriver has the work well in hand along the line as well as the work in Cordova. That town is coming into its own.

Here in Anchorage, while the drift has not affected the church work in the least, there is nevertheless considerable moving from Anchorage and vicinity. I dare say that as many as 1500 people are leaving us this Fall. None of the married folk are going out and that ~~is~~ why the church is untouched.

I note what you say about beginning work in Chicago the second or third week in February. I hope that you will lay out a strenuous campaign for me. I am so very very glad that I am to be with you especially at first if not all the time. It will give me a good chance to study your methods of approach.

I had already written Dr. Dixon that when Dr. Condit was here, we ~~###~~ made arrangements with the Rev. Mr. Brown to look after this field in my absence. He is a good man, is a much stronger preacher than Shriver and ought to keep the work somewhere up to standard. I am showing him all the ins and outs that I possibly can and as he has worked very faithfully all the last year-ever since he has been here-I see no reason why the church should not prosper.

To Dr. Dixon I also wrote that I wanted to be home in time to spend the holidays with my dear old parents. Mother has been ailing all Summer and father has been extremely worried lest she should never see me again. As I wrote to Dr. Dixon this means that I must leave here no later than Dec. 1 and have asked him to see that my salary and expenses in case the Board advances them, be forwarded so that they reach me by that time. You see the last mail gets here ~~##~~ Nov. 4th by boat and after that we are looking forward to a very uncertain mail service until the trail settles. It may take me some days in turn to get to Seward. I did want to take my trunk but I think I can get everything I need into a pack. It costs 25cts a pound to Seward and I do not think I need to take so much luggage as I must make some needed purchases as soon as I strike the States. As for the rest, it's just as easy to mush without dogs

# THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JAMES L. MCBRIDE  
MISSIONARY

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA \_\_\_\_\_ 191 \_\_\_\_\_

as with them and the only expense I will be put to between here andeward will be my road house bills and perhaps alift with my pack in case the going is too rough.

We had a little son born to us. Mrs. McBride has named him after his father and we are counting on making an Alaskan Missionary out of him.

I do hope Doctor, that you will be permitted to see Alaska before another Winter rolls round. Of course you will find changes everywhere. They tell me that the Inside is pretty well shot to pieces by the war but here on the Coast it is quite different. Some of your dreams I believe are already realized. This town for instance is a real outside town with much family life lived in it. The railroad makes the country seem hopeful. After all these years of waiting, it would do you good to see personally that the shifting is becoming the permanent. I wonder if you could not get things fixed so that you could be here July 1st. We could do a little hunting down to Snug Harbow which abounds with bears and incidentally you could get your fill of the best kinds of ducks and geese. Then the railroad will be completed quite 200 miles inside and we could take an excursion clear up towards the Broad Pass country.

In case I have not written sufficiently as to Mr. Hughes work, let me add that to the best of my knowledge, it is not advisable to send in another man before the Spring to take his place. Very little construction work is being done and in this financial emergency we are hardly justified in not saving the money. Dr. Condit thoroughly agreed with me and doubtless will write you with reference to it.

In case you would wish to see me so soon as I get Outside you had better write at once and appoint a rendezvous for at the shortest your letter will hardly reach me until it is time for me to go. And will you see to it that the money reaches me as I have requested?

Hoping that your Kentucky work has opened auspiciously of the later days to follow,

Sincerely Yours,

*James L. McBride*



October 25, 1917.

Rev. James L. McBride,

Anchorage, Alaska.

My dear McBride,

Just a hurried note as I have come to the office in a rush from the Synods of Kentucky and West Virginia, and am going right back to West Virginia, and then on to Ohio.

I had a delightful visit with Mrs. McBride, her sister's family, her mother and others. It was all too short. Saw the big boy "Jim Jr." and consider him a credit to you.

I have submitted your last two letters to Dr. Dixon, and was to have discussed the matter fully with him today and decide just what to advise you. But he is at home sick with a cold, and I leave the office this evening to be gone two weeks and a half. In a hurried conversation with Dr. Dixon he suggested that as the Presbytery was about to meet, we would better wait until hearing from the Presbytery and from Dr. Condit before taking action according to the line of your suggestion.

I have been trying to find the right man to take Hughes' place. Am on the track of two or three, and have already decided not to consider two or three more who want to go. They did not measure up to the requirements. Perhaps if Mr. Brown can look after that field during the winter, we would better defer getting a man for Anchorage until your visit east, and let you help pick the man.

I am penning a note for Dr. Dixon recommending that you be allowed to come home and spend the holidays with your folks. I am sure we can find use



for you all the rest of the winter. You will doubtless hear by letter or telegram very soon from Dr. Dixon.

Hastily yours,



Mannington, West Virginia, November 8th, 1917

Mrs. J. L. McBride,  
Silverhills,  
New Albany, Indiana.

My Dear Mrs. McBride:

I have been extremely busy since seeing you and am now engaged in a big itinerary in West Virginia, however, I have taken time to write before leaving the office two weeks ago to Mr. McBride and to put through the office assent to Mr. McBride's request in a letter that was awaiting me when I returned, that is that he should be permitted to leave Alaska in time to spend the holidays with his wife and babies, and with his mother and mother-in-law. I am glad to tell you that the officers of the board readily assented to this and sent Mr. McBride sufficient for his journey.

I took up with Mr. Verbanks, assistant treasurer of the board, immediately upon my return to the office the matter of your check and he stated he would send July salary to you that day. I hope you got it and have found your needs all supplied.

Mr. McBride suggested that Mr. Brown take care of the Anchorage Mission this winter and I am trying to procure him salary sufficient to remunerate him for his work, however, we are awaiting further word from Mr. McBride on that point, perhaps he intends that what Mr. Brown gets should come from the Anchorage church.

I shall be back to the office next week for a few days and shall then begin to mark out an itinerary for Mr. McBride. We will have lots of work to keep him busy this winter. I shall try to arrange that he first canvass Chicago thoroughly and perhaps I shall myself be there with him for sometime. Dr. Marquis wishes us to do thorough work in that city. After Chicago, I hope to get a good entrance to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Pittsburgh.

So see all you can of your husband during the



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holidays for you will not see a great deal of him afterwards until the general assembly.

I hope you will find it possible to make one trip with him to New York and stop with us at Fairhaven awhile, bring all your babies and let us have a good old time.

We shall want Mr. McBride to pay a visit to the office as soon after he comes East as possible that we may arrange plans. When you get his telegram announcing his arrival at Seattle, I wish you would telegraph us telling us when he will arrive at New Albany, that we may lose no time communicating with him and having our interview in New York.

I have not yet had time to make slides of the pictures you furnished but shall take the matter up next week in my office.

With love to your sister and her family, your mother and other sister, hugs for the babies, I am

Affectionately yours,

SHY-KAM



